

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-11 ISO-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 TAR-01

STR-04 L-03 FTC-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /041 W
----- 065069

R 281049Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3679
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY MASERU
USDEL MTN GENEVA
USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD SF

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICAN ANTI-DUMPING DUTY ON US KEROSENE WAX

1. KRUGER OF BOARD OF TRADE CALLED ECONOFF JANUARY 28 ABOUT REQUEST FROM SA PRODUCER OF KEROSENE WAS(BTN 27.13.10) FOR INCREASED ANTI-DUMPING DUTY ON IMPORTS OF THIS PRODUCT FROM THE US.

2. PRESENT ANTI-DUMPING DUTY SET AT AMOUNT NEEDED TO BRING C.I.F. PRICE OF US PRODUCT IN SA MARKET UP TO RAND 115 (132) PER METRIC TON. SA PRODUCER IS ASKING THAT THIS R115 BE INCREASED TO R250.

3. KRUGER SAYS PRESENT ANTI-DUMPING DUTY NOT BEING APPLIED AS NO IMPORTS TAKING PLACE AT LESS THAN R115. SA PRODUCER (SASOL) SAYS US SUPPLIERS QUOTING \$260 C.I.F. TO SA IMPORTERS. PRODUCER ASSERTS THAT DOMESTIC US PRICE IS \$286 FOR CHEAPEST GRADE. KRUGER FIGURES INSURANCE AND FREIGHT AT R81 (\$93.15), SO AT FIRST GLANCE US SUPPLIERS

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SEEM TO BE DUMPING BY MARGIN OF ABOUT \$119 (286 PLUS 93 LESS 260).

4. KRUGER HAS ASKED US TO INQUIRE CURRENT US DOMESTIC PRICE OF CHEAPEST GRADE OF THIS PRODUCT.

5. ACTION. REQUEST WHATEVER INFORMATION CURRENTLY AVAILABLE ON US DOMESTIC PRICE.

6. COMMENT. SAG HAS CUSTOMS MAN IN NEW YORK WHO NORMALLY HANDLES THIS TYPE OF CASE BUT KRUGER THOUGHT HE WOULD GET QUICKER AND MORE AUTHORITATIVE ANSWER FROM EMBASSY. HE RECOGNIZES THAT IT IS UNUSUAL TO ASK SUPPLIER'S GOVERNMENT TO VERIFY PRICE IN AN ANTI-DUMPING CASE BUT HAS NO DOUBT THAT USG ANSWER WOULD BE HONEST AND CORRECT. HE SAID HE WANTED TO TRY THIS APPROACH BECAUSE OF THE OPEN, FRIENDLY AND EFFECTIVE WAY THE RECENT FERROCHROME COUNTER-VAILING DUTY CASE WAS HANDLED BY US TREASURY AND THE EMBASSY WORKING WITH THE SA DEPT OF COMMERCE AND THE SA EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. HE SAYS HE WAS VERY FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY THE SWEET REASONABLENESS SHOWN

BY ALL PARTIES IN THE FERROCHROME CASE.

7. KRUGER ALSO SAID HE EXPECTED SAG DECISION ON QUESTION OF ADHERENCE TO ANTI-DUMPING CODE WITHIN THREE MONTHS. WE WERE LEFT WITH IMPRESSION THAT SA WOULD PROBABLY ADHERE.

BOWDLER

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